**Starting line**

A new Norman brand aims to reshape men's fashion.

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**Thunder falls to Timberwolves**

Minnesota beat OKC by a bigger margin this time, winning 104-88.

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# THE OKLAHOMAN

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# Fallin would veto another budget lacking teacher raise

**BY BEN FELDER**
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Gov. Mary Fallin said she would veto another proposed budget that doesn't include a pay raise for teachers, something she called a top priority headed into her final year in office.

Following an address to dozens of school superintendents on Wednesday, in which she talked about the need for a teacher pay raise, Fallin was asked by a reporter if she would veto a budget that did not include a salary increase for educators.

"In the second special session? Yeah, I would," Fallin said.

The state Legislature is currently in its second special session since it adjourned the 2017 regular session and later learned some of its budget fixes were unconstitutional.

Fallin vetoed part of a budget proposal last year during the first special session, saying it failed to address many of the objectives she sought, including a rise in teacher pay.

Michael McNutt, a spokesman for the governor, said Fallin expects to see a teacher pay raise in a budget agreement, which could include dedicated funding beginning in Fiscal Year 2019.

At Wednesday's event hosted by the Oklahoma Public Schools Resources Center, Fallin acknowledged the state budget situation has been especially tough for public schools.

Earlier this week, funding statistics compiled in a report

SEE BUDGET, 2A

PREP PARADE

# GETTING HER SHOT

## Fighting rare condition, Dale's Emily Chesser finds triumph on the court

**BY JACOB UNRUH**
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**DALE —** Randy Chesser always delivers the game-ending countdown.

His daughter, Emily, hurries before time expires to make the shot on the 8-foot dirt path she's created around the basketball goal.

Then she celebrates.

"The Dale Lady Pirates have won the state title!"

Tuesday night was not for the state championship, but Emily suited up for the first time ever in Dale red, gold and white. The special-needs freshman found her own triumph in making her first official basket during the first quarter of a win against Oklahoma Christian School.

"It's been a long journey," Emily's mom Stephanie said. "She definitely isn't a normal child, but she's Emily and she's great."

SEE SHOT, 2A

**ABOVE: The Dale Lady Pirates celebrate with freshman Emily Chesser (24) after she made a basket during Tuesday's win against Oklahoma Christian School. LEFT: Chesser makes a basket during Tuesday's game.**
[PHOTOS BY KENT BUSH, THE SHAWNEE NEWS-STAR]

**Access to The Urban Taco Shop and Sweets & Eats has been closed. Robinson Avenue remains closed while crews inspect the First National Center for more problems and repairs.** [PHOTO BY DOUG HOKE, THE OKLAHOMAN]

# Businesses remain closed while First National Center work persists

**BY DAVID DISHMAN**
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Two downtown businesses have spent much of this week closed after falling debris from the First National Center Sunday night forced a street closure blocking entrance to the restaurants.

Sweets and Eats and The Urban Taco Shop are the only two businesses which have customer access only from Robinson Avenue between Park Avenue and Main Street. The street and sidewalks on that block were closed after a portion of masonry fell from the 26th floor of the First National Center, leaving the business owners unable to operate their stores.

"It probably couldn't have come at a worse time," Urban Taco Shop Owner Cody Hail said. "Usually I wouldn't care

SEE CLOSED, 2A

**TODAY'S PRAYER**
Almighty God, we pray for peace throughout the world; may all nations live in harmony. Amen.


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